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to be done. What's happening in Iraq is a political war, so it is being conducted by politicians in violation of many military principles, and that's why it's going so badly. Since we met the last time, last week, at least a half-dozen young Americans have been killed in Iraq, for no purpose. But the point I'm getting to is that things can happen in the Barnum and Bailey military world that exists today of the kind that I'm describing. You could have a set of circumstances where you need one of these types of people, somebody to handle the property and fiscal matters, but there is no commissioned officer available, or if there's a commissioned officer, that person held no commission for a total of four years prior to the necessity of filling this position. I would like to have it explained to me, in view of the changes that are occurring relative to how the National Guard is being dealt with, why we want to retain the requirement that a person has to have been a commissioned officer for four years prior to this appointment being made. There are such things--I don't know if they ever make...if they make somebody a commissioned officer who's not--but there are battlefield...yeah, they say battlefield commissions. Because of the way a person comports himself, and now we have to say herself, there may be increases in rank given on the basis of that battlefield performance which is...would be different from the criteria ordinarily used in giving somebody a commission. If we adopt the language in Section 4, we are not in any way changing the existing law, which requires the four years of being a commissioned officer. But since this matter is before us, and this bill is talking about reorganizing, restructuring the National Guard, I want to know why we would...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...require...the part about the appointed officer being an active member of the National Guard is all right. I think that's as it should be. But then we say, and shall have been commissioned officers in the Nebraska National Guard for a period of at least four years immediately prior to the appointment. So let's say that the commissioned officers are either called to active duty and taken away, or they all quit because they don't want to go. And they see it coming, so they quit and get out while they can. So you have some